

House Concurrent Resolution No. 15

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

0548L.011

1 **Whereas**, lymphedema is an accumulation of lymphatic fluid that causes swelling
2 in the arms, legs, or other areas of the body and affects both men and women; and
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4 **Whereas**, the swelling caused by lymphedema can lead to severe infection or loss
5 of the use of limbs, and patients suffering from lymphedema must endure physical discomfort
6 and disfigurement and cope with the distress caused by these symptoms; and
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8 **Whereas**, the single largest group of people who get lymphedema are cancer
9 patients, including breast, prostate, gynecological, head, neck, lung, sarcoma, and melanoma
10 patients; and
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12 **Whereas**, recent studies have indicated that twenty percent of breast cancer patients
13 will get lymphedema after surgery and radiation; and
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15 **Whereas**, according to the National Cancer Institute, there are a reported eight and
16 a half million Americans living after a diagnosis of cancer, of which about two million are breast
17 cancer survivors; and
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19 **Whereas**, no drug or effective surgical treatment for lymphedema currently exists;
20 and
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22 **Whereas**, research in all areas of lymphedema has been notably limited; and
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24 **Whereas**, lymphedema, which has no cure and can occur at any time, has a severe
25 financial, physical, and psychological impact on patients; and
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27 **Whereas**, each year on March 6th, the National Lymphedema Network sponsors
28 Lymphedema D-Day to honor patients and to raise awareness of the treatment and severity of this
29 condition:
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31 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
32 Representatives of the Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
33 concurring therein, hereby designate March 6th, in 2003 and each subsequent year, as
34 Lymphedema D-Day in Missouri; and
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36 **Be it further resolved** that the members of the General Assembly encourage
37 the citizens of the State of Missouri to honor and support the courageous patients living and
38 coping with this debilitating condition; and
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40 **Be it further resolved** that this resolution be sent to the Governor for his
41 approval or rejection pursuant to the Missouri Constitution.